



PLANNING FORUM AGENDA

Sunday 10 May

By Zoom

Procedures for the Online Meeting

- i. The Planning Forum is open to all ESNZ financial members
- ii. Prior online registration will be compulsory and is required no later than **Friday 8th May at noon** in order registration approvals can be actioned and the Zoom link to be sent back to participants
- iii. Participants registration will be approved subject to all registration data being submitted. This will include
 - a. Name
 - b. ESNZ Area
 - c. Area Group membership
 - d. Role e.g. observer, DNZ committee member, voting delegate, judge, official
 - e. ESNZ member registration number and expiry date
- iv. The Forum will open at 12.40.
 - a. Participants are requested to sign in between 12.40 and 12.50 to ensure the Forum can commence without interruption at 1pm.
 - b. Participants should join with their microphone muted to avoid noise interference and should remain muted unless participating in the meeting. Cameras can also be switched to off during the meeting and switched on when participating
- v. Only voting delegates will vote on remits but all members are welcome to contribute to the discussion. Comments about remits can be made on the chat function but please make them succinct in order they can be managed by the meeting hosts. Please keep the chat relevant. Voting will be carried out via the Zoom Poll Function. Following the discussion on remits, a poll will be launched. Voting Delegates will have 2 minutes to action their vote. Results of each poll will be immediately seen by the meeting host as a % and individual votes recorded are recorded on the Zoom platform for reporting purposes.
- vi. Questions may be submitted at time of registration or on the chat function during the meeting
- vii. Member Apologies for the Forum can be by email to dressage@nzquestrian.org.nz Apologies will not be accepted verbally at the online meeting
- viii. If any area group wishes to substitute their voting delegate from the one listed in the agenda please email the Sport Manager dressage@nzquestrian.org.nz by noon on 8th May with the group approval for this substitute, including an email contact for the substitute and also ensure the substitute delegate has been forwarded this document

Click on registration link below to be taken to Zoom and register for the meeting.

Registrations are now open

[Registration Link](#)

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PRESENT

Board:

Scott McKenna (Chair), Andra Mobberley, Sarah Hazlewood, Linda Warren-Davey, Sue Hobson, Michelle Zielazo

In Attendance:

Wendy Hamerton/Sport Manager

Judy Collin / Minute Secretary

Meeting Co-hosts for meeting administration purposes / TBA

Voting Delegates:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Bernice Frost | Taihape |
| Betty Brown | Auckland-Manukau |
| Debra Cowen | Waikato |
| Diane Wallace | Marlborough |
| Genevieve Quin | Northern Hawke's Bay |
| Heather Hilder | Waitemata |
| Janine van der Horst | Bay of Plenty |
| Jody Hartstone | NI Riders Rep |
| Jude Nickolls | SI Riders Rep |
| Laura Hayes | Otago |
| Linda Huitson | Taranaki |
| Lois Andrewes | Northland |
| Marty Pow | Sth Cant/Nth Otago |
| Nicki Page | Canterbury |
| Peri Scrivenor | Ashburton |
| Rachel McCallum | Steward General |
| Rebecca McKee | Southland |
| Rosanne Rix | Wellington |
| Sharon Field | Southern Hawke's Bay |
| Sue Harris | Gisborne |
| Susan Tomlin | Central Districts |
| Suzanne Halligan | Wairarapa |
| Suzanne Inglis | Nelson |

Apologies

FINANCIAL

The Draft Budget 20/21 budget is under review and will be presented at the meeting via a screenshot

ACTIVITY UPDATE SUMMARY

i. Dressage Board

- a. The Board is currently meeting fortnightly by Zoom or Teams. This is working well enabling the Board to keep abreast of issues, in particular around Covid19 National and FEI matters, keeping discussions and decisions up to date.
- b. The Dressage Board approved the ESNZ Board recommendation re the AGM timing clause to be added to By-law 17, Dressage Rules for Administration to ensure any AGM timing deviations meet the ESNZ Constitutional requirement. Although the Dressage By-Law v2018 does not specify a time frame within which the Dressage AGM should be held following the end of the Financial Year 31 May, the Board resolved to adopt the ESNZ recommendation as follows:

That each individual discipline's by-law be amended to include the following provision;
"If due to circumstances outside the control of the discipline board it is not possible taking all reasonable steps to comply with any time-frames relevant to the holding of the AGM then the discipline board may adopt alternative time frames that come as close as is reasonably practicable to the time frames set out in this by-law and those time frames;

- a. *Ensure that all members are given adequate prior warning of the time and place of the AGM; and*
- b. *Ensure that all members have adequate opportunity to submit material to be produced at the AGM; and*
- c. *Advise the ESNZ board of the alternative arrangements at the first reasonable opportunity.*

This provision would be added to each by-law as follows.
Dressage as article 22.f.

- c. Two Board positions, Marketing & Performance & Development become vacant this year.

ii. 2020 Dressage FEI World Challenge

The deadline to hold the 2020 Dressage FEI World Challenge is 31 Dec 2020. The FEI has given WDC NF's a dispensation for two national judges to be utilized instead of one national/one international. The Board has resolved to review the decision re NZL participation until 30 May and the requirements for Alert Level 2 may be clearer re inter regional travel.

iii. Tokyo Olympics.

The delay has given combinations with FEI MES more time to meet the NZOC criteria. There are reservations that ESNZ Dressage will be able to host CDI 3* qualifying events prior to new selection date. These reservations are based on potential cost of event delivery and availability of international officials as there will be high demand in Europe, plus any border travel restrictions are currently unknown. The FEI Dressage Calendar Task Force is currently considering the Foreign Judge requirements for CDI given the worldwide pandemic and effects on FEI through 2020

iv. **Willinga Park CDI 4* & FEI Regional Dressage Forum:**

Four NZL Grand Prix riders competed at Willinga Park NSW in two back to back CDI 4* from 22nd Feb through 1 March. NZL won the unofficial teams event held between AUS & NZL. NZL riders all performed with distinction, with outstanding performances from Melissa Galloway and John Thompson on young, self-trained Grand Prix horses. The only AUS rider to be ahead of these two was 5-time Olympian Mary Hanna who had two horses at the event

Dressage Chair Scott McKenna represented ESNZ Dressage at the Forum. The Sport Manager also attended part of the Forum and the second CDI4*. This was a very valuable international networking opportunity with a number of Olympic judges officiating, and Bettina Rham, the FEI Dressage Director.

v. **Dressage AGM & Awards Dinner**

No decision re date, venue, or format at this time. This is under constant review in consultation with ESNZ.

DRESSAGE NZ: GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Outcome Required:

Area consultation with members and a poll will be launched during the meeting to get indicative member / area opinion

Bates National Dressage & Webb Equestrian Para Equestrian Championships

- The March event was postponed and rescheduled for 26-29 November 2020. The only dates available at the NEC were early October or this November date. DNZ recognises that this date clashes with students examination timetables.
- At this time, the planning for this event (and all events) is constantly under review with some aspects of what travel will be permitted once the country gets to Level 2 and much conjecture about the duration of Level 2 prior to going to Level 1.
- While November spring date breaks a long-standing tradition of a summer/autumn date, there are some perceived advantages worth consideration for the future.
 - i. Riders do not have the financial outlay of fees for two back to back events and perhaps do not therefore have to choose between events
 - ii. The % of scr likely to be less in the spring than after HOY
 - iii. Horses sustaining an injury hopefully do not miss both events
 - iv. Horses are fresher and not undergoing coat changes
 - v. Less time/leave pressure on higher level officials required at both events
 - vi. Less time/leave pressure on volunteers who may work at both events

Inter-Island Travel: Only a small number of combinations are able to stay north for both events when they are back to back. Separating the events may increase the possibility for Inter-Island participation rather than decrease. This year a number still chose between HOY & NCH

Survey: It was resolved that following a November held event, riders would be surveyed re the date

Stabling: The stabling at NEC can only cater for approx 70% of requests. It seems unlikely that the portable stables usually hired will be available in the coming season. It is possible that riders who request stabling and are not allocated have a higher scr rate. (This just does not only apply to NCH). In an effort to at least partially overcome this issue, a new look schedule, more similar to that at the AUS Champs has been drafted

In addition, the local equestrian community is being requested to identify off site horse and /or rider accommodation that may be available.

NCH PROPOSED DRAFT SCHEDULE

The underlying principle is that not all horses are required on site at the same time although there may be some overlap for riders with horses across the levels

Some advantages of this are:

1. Less people numbers on site per day which may make it easier for contact tracing and managing any Alert Level requirements that may be in place at that time
2. More horses allocated stables but riders will need to closely co-operate with the OC during the changeover period. This will be critically important.
3. Lower level horses classes over two days only resulting in less expensive stabling and on-site fees for some competitors
4. Less time away for some competitors
5. More staggered prize givings possible
6. Fewer officials / volunteers possibly required
7. More efficient use of arena space

Thursday

Prelim Novice & Elementary - Am & Open Eye Opener Combined class at each level
Prelim Novice & Elementary - AmCH Round 1
Prelim Novice & Elementary - Open Championship Round 1
Para Equestrian - All Grades Round 1
Young Dressage Horse - Rounds 1 & 2

Friday Morning

Prelim Novice & Elementary - Super 5 Class Open & Amateur combined at each level
Prelim Novice & Elementary - Amateur Championship Round 2
Prelim Novice & Elementary - Bates Open Championship Round 2

Friday Afternoon

Advanced Medium, Advanced, Small Tour, Medium Tour & Grand Prix - Super 5 Classes
Para Equestrian - All Grades Ch Round 3
Young Rider - Round 1

Saturday

Medium - AmCH & OPEN CH Round 1
Advanced Medium- AmCH & Open CH Round 1 Classes
Advanced Medium - Super 5 Class Open & Amateur combined
Advanced – Open CH Round 2
Small Tour, Medium Tour & Grand Prix - Musical Freestyle Classes OPENCH Round 2
Para Equestrian - Musical Freestyle CH Round 2
Young Rider Freestyle – Round 2

Sunday

Medium - AmCH & OpenCH Round 2
Medium - Super 5 Class Open & Amateur combined
Advanced Medium, Advanced – OPEN CH Round 2
Small Tour, Medium Tour & Grand Prix – OPEN CH Round 1
Young Rider - R3

2. PREMIER LEAGUE SCHEDULES

Outcome Required:

Area consultation with members and a poll will be launched during the meeting to get indicative member / area opinion

Principle:

Simplify Championships RE / PL schedules to give riders / horses more flexibility

Issues Identified:

1. PL Schedules have many variations of how Area / Grade Championships are awarded and these are not always clearly published in the schedule.
2. This leads to confusion amongst competitors riders and can lead to competitors waiting around at the end of an event wondering if they need to stay. This can especially affect out of region competitors who travel several hours
3. World trends at key events indicate one off championship classes for titles are the new norm
4. Many years ago NZL also had a one-off system but moved away from that when the World Cup became popular was over two rounds - The GP and the Freestyle. It was also considered that the most consistent combination should win the championship over several rounds rather than a head to head one -off competition.
5. Consider if this is still appropriate in today's environment of creating interest in our sport. Spectators / supporters /athletes cannot get immediate results of CH standings.

Advantages of Simplifying

1. Awarding of Champions is clear cut. No waiting for points to be added
2. Possibility of more flexible prizegivings rather than en masse at event conclusion
3. Competitors who can only come to the event for one day of two or three are not disadvantaged if they wish to compete for a championship
4. If a rider has a "bad" test early in the show they can still have a chance to win a CH
5. Riders have more flexibility / choice re which classes /grades to start their horses as they develop during the season. E.g.: A rider may choose a 3C and 4A, or 6C and PSG without comprising the chance to win a CH.
6. Riders do not feel so stuck in one grade for series and for the season competitions
7. OC can look to offer more flexibility in types of classes more easily . E.g. Ponies, Rider age group, young horse. It may be important in this particular year to make PL schedules more attractive to more local competitors if travel is restricted. More flexibility in schedules may facilitate this.

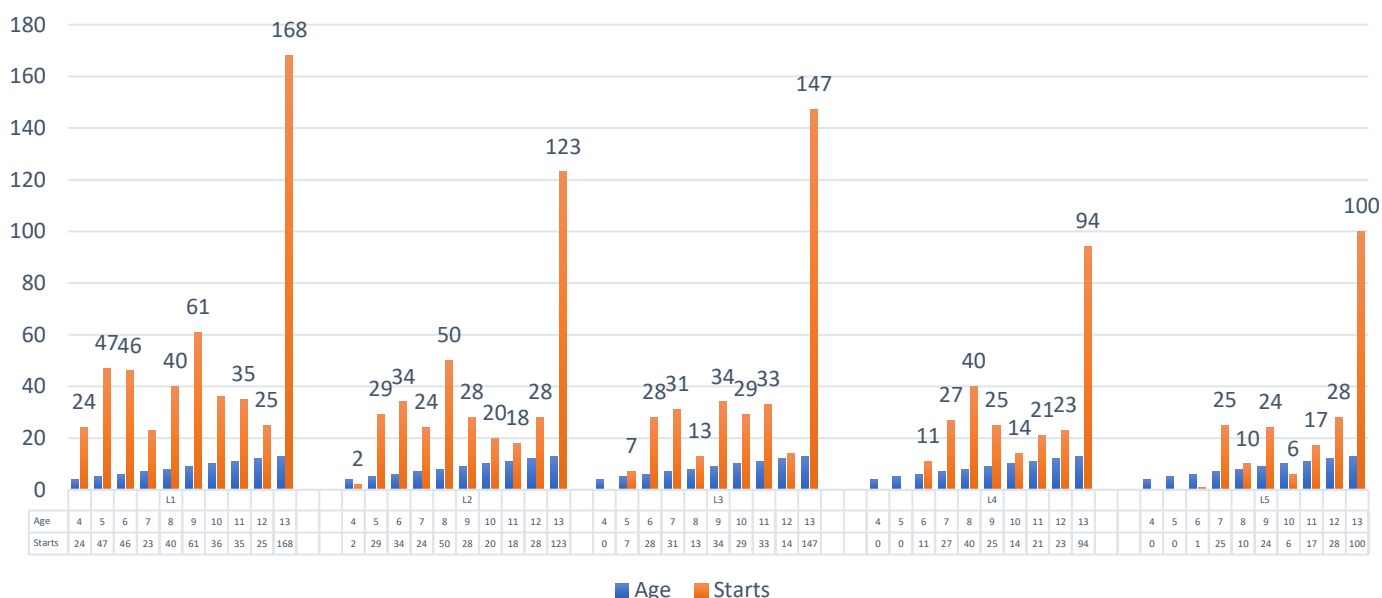
2a YOUNG HORSE CLASSES

The Board reviewed ages of horses competing at a selection of Premier League events and noted the relatively small numbers of 4,5,6 yr olds competing

The following statistics are based on the number of starts

| | Prelim | Novice | Elem | Med | Adv Med |
|------|--------|--------|------|-------|---------|
| 4yrs | 4.7% | 0.56% | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5yrs | 9.3% | 8.1% | 2.1% | 0 | 0 |
| 6yrs | 9.1% | 9.5% | 8.3% | 4.3% | 0.47% |
| 7yrs | 4.6% | 6.7% | 9.3% | 10.6% | 11.8% |

Premier League Level 1-5 /Age Final Column is 13+ yrs



Key Points:

- The Board recognised that Young Horse Classes are a valuable component of the sport's relationship and strategic vision to partner with breeders, as well as pathway for any combination who may be interested in competing in the FEI Dressage Young Horse Breeders Championship
- That YDH classes in their current format be retained at NCH & HOY in the NI, and noting the success of the SI Future Stars event which includes YDH classes
- That a partner to host a NI Future Stars event be sought in the same way that Dressage Canterbury hosts the SI Future Stars.
- Suggested that a new type of class be introduced using YH tests and judging concept be introduced that is not so age definitive. Just as an example: All horses/ponies 8 yrs and under could enter a "Perspective" or "Potential Class" at the level considered relevant by the rider. This level may or may not be connected to the current grade of the horse. That this concept could be more relevant to national level competition.

3. DOWNGRADING

Downgrading continues to create debate. An analysis of downgrade applications for the previous two years follows for information. A member survey re downgrading is about to be published. The survey results will be presented at the meeting.

Outcome Required:

Committee to support or reject further consultation in respect of the current rule with a view to amend for 21/22 season

| Horse/Pony | Age | Date | GR | DG | Comment | Current status |
|------------|-----|------------|----|----|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Horse 1 | | 10/10/2018 | 6 | 3 | | No record |
| Horse 2 | | 10/01/2019 | 6 | 2 | | 61-67% LE |
| Horse 3 | 16 | 24/01/2019 | 3 | 2 | | 55-65% LE/RE |
| Horse 4 | | 30/01/2019 | 5 | 3 | | L4 61-63%. Entered NCH 2020 |
| Horse 5 | 16 | 12/02/2019 | 3 | 2 | YR | 56-62% LE/RE |
| Horse 6 | | 12/03/2019 | 3 | 2 | YR | 56-68% LE/RE/U25CH |
| Horse 7 | | 28/05/2019 | 5 | 3 | YR | 62 - 67% LE/RE |
| Horse 8 | | 1/07/2019 | 4 | 2 | | 62-65% LE/RE |
| Horse 9 | 19 | 11/07/2019 | 5 | 2 | | No record |
| Horse 10 | 20 | 30/07/2019 | 7 | 2 | YR | 63-72% LE/RE |
| Horse 11 | | 2/08/2019 | 7 | 6 | YR Revoked | Competing FEI YR |
| Horse 12 | 12 | 19/09/2019 | 6 | 3 | YR | 52-63% LE |
| Horse 13 | | 23/09/2019 | 2 | 1 | Not Eligible | |
| Horse 14 | | 24/09/2019 | 6 | 2 | | No record |
| Horse 15 | | 27/09/2019 | 4 | 1 | | 55-65% LE/RE |
| Horse 16 | 17 | 24/10/2019 | 3 | 2 | | 1 start 64% LE |
| Horse 17 | | 23/12/2019 | 3 | 1 | | 68-75% LE |
| Horse 18 | 19 | 6/01/2020 | 2 | 1 | Intro | No record |
| Horse 19 | 19 | 6/01/2020 | 2 | 1 | Intro | 56-63% |
| Horse 20 | | 14/01/2020 | 2 | 1 | | No record |
| Horse 21 | | 4/02/2020 | 8 | 2 | | No record |
| Horse 22 | | 9/03/2020 | 5 | 3 | | No record |
| Pony 1 | | 8/03/2019 | 2 | 1 | | 61-71% LE |
| Pony 2 | 20 | 21/03/2019 | 3 | 2 | | Lead rein & PC |
| Pony 3 | | 7/05/2019 | 5 | 2 | | 62-70% Entered U25CH |
| Pony 4 | 20 | 20/07/2019 | 2 | 1 | | 57-64% RE |
| Pony 5 | | 9/09/2019 | 3 | 2 | | 2 starts 66-68% |
| Pony 6 | | 1/10/2019 | 2 | 1 | | 58-66% L1, 59-65% L2 |
| Pony 7 | | 27/02/2020 | 4 | 1 | Adult CN | No record |

DRAFT CALENDAR 20/21

An updated version of the draft calendar will be distributed prior to 8th May

An important reminder that all ESNZ sanctioned dressage events should be added to the calendar. These are the events that are permitted to use the ESNZ Dressage tests and officials.

REMITs & AGENDA ITEMS SUBMITTED

Remit 1

Re: Proof of Age & Breeding for Young Horse Classes

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone / Dressage NZ Committee member- North Island Riders Representative

Seconded by: Kiernyn Walton / member

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER : NEW

REMIT:

All horses entered for NZ Young Dressage Horse Classes including National Finals / HOY Finals must show proof of age and breeding via Breed Society Papers / Passport that is independent of Equestrian Sport NZ.

RATIONALE:

- 1) At the moment it is enough for a vet to verify the age of a young horse. However, aging a horse is not an exact science and there can be large variations in a young horse's teeth if one is born in August and one is born in March – even if technically they are the same age (Taken from 1 August)
- 2) One of the purposes of these classes is to promote breeders and breeding. Breed Association papers verify that each horse is indeed correct in its parentage and date of birth.
- 3) This is a chance for Dressage New Zealand to lead the way – ahead of all other ESNZ disciplines who are not yet strict on these criteria – as young horse classes become more and more popular we need to be seen to be more professional in the information provided for each horse, perhaps with the final goal of a NZ horse being represented at the World Young Horse Championships
- 4) This remit does not exclude a horse without a “fancy” pedigree from entering these classes. Anything with 25% or more warmblood breeding is eligible for breed papers in New Zealand – however it will exclude those of “unknown” breeding – because let's face it – if you don't know the sire and dam, how can you possibly know when it was born?
- 5) For those horses where there is no breed registry available, the Person Responsible must collate all available information in terms of proof of breeding / service certificates / dna / dated evidence and affidavits to satisfy Dressage NZ that the horse is indeed correct in age and parentage. This may be outsourced to a reputable breed association to check the evidence as per Industry Standard Protocols.
- 6) Any Breed Society used must be able to show that Industry Standard protocols have been met if required (This is to stop a breed society simply giving out papers with no proof of date of last service / date of birth or proof of sire and dam

Remit 2

2.1 Re Jackets

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone / Dressage NZ Committee member- North Island Riders Representative

Seconded by: No seconder

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER : 479 – DRESS

Amend

REMIT:

A long sleeve, short sleeve or sleeveless shirt and an appropriately pinned down stock, tie or choker shirt/ collar must be worn. A jacket is not compulsory however is recommended.

RATIONALE:

This was discussed at the North Island Rider's meeting and a vote was taken which was in favour of not having jackets be compulsory at any level. At the moment it is the Organising Committee's decision about when it is "Too Hot" to wear a jacket but many riders feel it should be their choice as we all feel the heat differently (e.g. women with hot flushes, people with medical conditions etc and it was felt that a smart riding shirt and stock was equally as tidy as wearing a jacket.

This remit would complement our sports strong support for health and safety of rider and horse.

2.2 Re Jackets

Submitted by: Betty Brown: AMDG Delegate

Seconded by: Karen Shields :President AMDG

Levels 5-9 delete colour restrictions on jackets/coat or tailcoat to concur with levels 1-4

Rationale: No real reason for lighter colours not to be worn at upper levels especially during the warmer months

If a rider has 2 horses and they then can use a light grey jacket on level 1-4 horse but would currently need another jacket for a level 5 horse this makes no sense.

FEI events would need to adhere to FEI dress code.

There is no health or safety reason to not amend the rule

Many of our sponsors are retailers of equestrian clothing and this makes it easier to sell to them without restrictions.

Remit 3

Re: Grading Points

Submitted by: Nicki Page: Canterbury Area Delegate

Seconded by: Karen Daniel / Member

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: Article 460 - Grading of Horses & Ponies

NEW ✕ / **N**

Add/Amend /Delete

REMIT:

That the mark of 57% is increased to 60% for riders to obtain a grading point; whole scale to be amended accordingly.

Currently 67% : 7 pts | 63 – 66.99%: 5 pts | 60 – 62.99%: 3 pts | 57 – 59.99%: 1 pt

The suggestion is for it to be changed to the following:

75% +: 10 pts | 74.99% -70 %: 7pts | 69.99% -67%: 5 pts | 63 – 66.99%: 3 pts | 60 – 62.99%: 1 pt

RATIONALE:

There has been a real marked improvement in performances throughout NZ.

If a score is below 60%, there are identifiable issues in the TR and/or there have been problems in the arena, and therefore a performance under 60% should not warrant a grading point.

Remit 4

Re: Dressage Area Delegates

Submitted by: Nicki Page: Canterbury Area Delegate

Seconded by: Linda Warren-Davey / Member

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: RULES FOR ADMINISTRATION ESNZ BY-LAW No 17

13. DRESSAGE AREA DELEGATES.

NEW ✕ / **N**

Add/Amend /Delete

REMIT:

That Area delegates are elected on a 3 yr rotational system.

RATIONALE:

This directive would share the load around the committee and/or members, involve more people in the 'behind-the 'scenes' and ensure there is a continual fresh approach and input from members.

Remit 5

Re: Hoof Boots (1)

Submitted by: Peter Jenkins: Dressage Bay of Plenty Chair

Seconded by: Janine van der Horst Dressage Bay of Plenty Delegate

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: Article 4.77 Saddlery

REMIT:

Plain black, low profile hoof boots with gaiters* are permitted to be worn. They MUST be easily removed for inspection by vets | stewards | technical delegates as required.

"See attached appendix of examples of low-profile hoof boots

RATIONALE:

The wearing of hoof boots is not allowed in ESNZ Dressage. This is not specifically stated but is implied, according to Article 477 4.11 which states that any kind of boots are strictly forbidden.

Boots (and therefore Hoof boots) are allowed in other ESNZ disciplines (Endurance, Showjumping, Driving) and the jumping phases of Eventing. They are not allowed in Eventing dressage - the rule again stating that boots are not allowed and the use of them results in a 2-point penalty (then elimination occurs if they are not removed).

It is unclear why hoof boots are not permissible in dressage. They are simply another form of hoof 'shoe' albeit not permanently attached to the hoof. It has been suggested that one reason is that substances could be hidden in the boots which will affect the performance of the horse. However as standard hoof boots are quickly and easily removed for inspection, this seems to be a moot point. Another argument is that the boots 'protect' the bulbs of the horse's heel therefore acting as a form of overreach boot. However, 'scoot boots' do not cover the heel bulbs yet are still not allowed to be worn.

The ruling as it currently stands, therefore prevents riders of barefoot horses from using low profile hoof boots, with gaiters, in dressage competition. Hoof boots, which do not extend beyond the coronet, may be worn but these then typically have to be glued on which is expensive, short term and is not suitable for all horses.

Whilst some competitors are able and do compete their horses barefoot, this restriction does prevent those horses for whom hoof boots are necessary, from participating. Hoof boots may be necessary for a variety of reasons - horses newly transitioning to barefoot, protection on coarse surfaces (e.g. sand) and for horses with flat soles or easily worn hooves. In all of these instances the comfort of the horse is the primary consideration.

There are also many reasons why rider may choose not to use metal shoes. It may be a personal choice, but for some it may be that their horses cannot be shod in the traditional way. Hoof boots then allow these horses to continue their ridden careers in comfort.

Animal welfare and in particular the use of horses for sport is becoming more topical. Whilst use of metal shoes is suitable for many horses, it is not the solution for all. There are many and varied reasons why a person may

choose to keep their horse barefoot. Hoof boots are a useful tool in that they allow horses to be ridden on a range

of surfaces without discomfort. As a discipline we should be looking to accommodate this and providing a choice for those who may not conform to the status quo.

ESNZ Dressage has already demonstrated a willingness to make horse welfare a priority with its stance on allowing nose nets, monitoring noseband tightness and the no noseband rule. We would appreciate the same consideration for this proposal.

Thank you.

Update 13 February 2020 - The Horse-Riding Club of Victoria Australia (HRCVA) has approved 'Scoot Boots' in dressage competition.

Update 14 February 2020 - Allowing hoof boots in dressage was discussed at the North Island Riders meeting at the Waikato PL show and was positively received by attendees.



SCOOT BOOTS



RENEGADES



EASYBOOTS

Remit 5

Re: Hoof Boots (2)

Submitted by: Susan Tomlin: Dressage Central Districts Delegate

Seconded by: Jos Gresham FEI & National Steward

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: Article 477 Saddlery, 4 Bits, Bridles, Martingales, lunging equipment

REMIT:

Existing rule

4.11 Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins etc.), any kind of boots or bandages, any form of blinkers, shadow blinds, masks, hoods or bonnets, and ear plugs (exception prizegiving's & horse inspections), are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden. (Breastplates are permitted).

Amended rule

4.11 Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins etc.), any kind of boots or bandages, any form of blinkers, shadow blinds, masks, hoods or bonnets, and ear plugs (exception prizegivings & horse inspections), are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden. (Breastplates and hoof boots are permitted. Hoof boots should be discrete and black or dark brown)

RATIONALE:

Growing numbers of riders are choosing to ride their horses barefoot because of health and soundness benefits.

Many of the competition arena surfaces presently in use are abrasive, gravelly and uncomfortable to unshod horses. In our sport the welfare of the horse is paramount" Hoof boots help to protect the welfare of the horse and would allow unshod horses to perform on equal terms with shod horses on these surfaces whilst allowing the horses to remain barefoot. Hoof boots can be easily removed at any time should the horse's ID or the boots themselves need to be checked. Horses are currently allowed to compete with shoes and pads which are fixed in place, hoof boots are providing the same properties but are removable. Black or brown boots only as these would be minimally distracting compared to brighter colored boots.

Remit 6

Re: Penalties

Submitted by: Betty Brown: AMDG Delegate

Seconded by: Karen Shields :President AMDG

REMIT:

To bring DNZ rules in line with Dressage Australia for competition rules and penalties where pertinent.

Examples:

- Boots or bell boots left on. At the moment it is elimination, should be 2 pts
- Saluting with whip in hand same as salute. (AUS has no penalty)

Rationale:

To stop eliminating riders but penalise by 2pts when rule not adhered to.

To make it easier for Judges, Officials and Riders from both NZ and Australia to work in both countries.

A graph with penalties and what to do in situations – points or elimination, etc. This would make it easy for all to see.

Remit 7

Re: Art 477 SADDLERY

Submitted by: Dressage Board / Technical

Rationale / Principles:

- i. That Art 477 be reformatted to ensure all information referencing bits and bridles etc. is in the same para (Refer currently 477.3. and 477 3.4 BUT that the wording and/or intent is not amended / altered unless specifically proposed below
- ii. Clarify, modernize and align with FEI where appropriate

477.3 STIRRUPS:

Current rule

Stirrup leathers and irons are compulsory and must be attached to the saddle and used in the conventional way. Unless official ESNZ Dressage dispensation is approved (Art 483) the rider's boots must not be fixed to the stirrup iron by mechanical means and if used as such without dispensation will result in elimination.

Proposed New Rule

1.3 Amend to align with current FEI rules

Stirrup leathers and ~~irons~~ English style stirrups or safety stirrups are compulsory and must be attached to the saddle and used in the conventional way.

-Stirrups must have closed branches, and no attachments. Safety stirrups may have an opening on the outside branch.

Unless official ESNZ Dressage dispensation is approved (Art 483) the rider's boots must not be fixed to the stirrup iron by **any means** (e.g. magnets) and if used as such without dispensation will result in elimination.

The foot must not be fully or partially enclosed. and must in no way be attached to the stirrups (for example with magnets).

Art 477.3 & .4 BRIDLES:

Current rule

- 3.4 Bridles must be predominantly black, brown, grey or navy and may not be decorated with tassels or any additions to the normal configuration. **Discreet padding of** the bridle at the poll or noseband is permitted. Padding of the cheek pieces is not allowed and will result in elimination.

Proposed New Rule

Deleted highlighted text in 3.4 and add the following to align with FEI Rules

A plain snaffle bridle is required to be used with a regular cavesson noseband, a dropped noseband, a flash noseband, a crossed noseband, a combined noseband or a Micklem or similar design of bridle. The Micklem or similar bridle ~~is permitted and~~ must be used with a permitted bit and without bit clips

Except for the buckles and padding, the headstall and noseband must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material. **Padding is allowed on bridles.** Nylon or other non-metal material may be used to reinforce leather in the headstall but must not be in direct contact with the horse. Elastic inserts are permitted in the crownpiece and cheek pieces only and must not be in direct contact with the horse or the bit.

A browband is required, and except for the parts that attach to the crownpiece or headstall, is not required to be made of leather or leather-like material.

The crownpiece of the bridle must lie immediately behind the poll and may extend forward onto the poll but must not be fitted to lie behind the skull.

A throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridle are used.

A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Rein additions or attachments are not permitted. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit. Reins must not be made of rope or rope-like material.

Note: Retain the current NZ rule re tightness of nosebands

Art 477.4 BITS

RATIONALE:

To add clarity and more detailed information ~~further clarify~~ re the diagrams of permitted bits and align with current FEI Rules where they currently do not directly contradict current NZ rules (e.g. wrapping of bits)

Proposed Rule:

BITS:

Snaffle, Bridoon and curb bits must have a smooth surface. Twisted and wire bits are prohibited. Bits must be made of metal, rigid plastic, or durable synthetic material. ~~and may be covered with rubber/latex.~~ Bits must not place mechanical restraint upon the tongue. Wrapping of bits with any kind of material is not permitted

E.g. A Dr Bristol Bit i.e., where the link plate is long, flat and set at an angle to the horse's tongue; is not classed as an ordinary double-jointed snaffle.

The diameter of the mouthpiece of the bridoon/snaffle and/or curb must be such so as not to hurt the Horse.

Add minimum diameter of 12mm for horse/snaffle

Minimum diameter of mouthpiece to be twelve millimetres (12 mm) for curb bit, and ten millimetres (10 mm) for bridoon bit. Snaffles must have a minimum diameter of **twelve millimetres (12 mm)** for horses and ten millimetres (10mm) for Ponies. The diameter of the mouthpiece is measured adjacent to the rings or the cheeks of the mouthpiece.

SNAFFLE BITS

3.1 Snaffle Bits –Snaffle bits are permitted when the use of a double bridle is not required. (Refer **3.2**)

3.1.1 Snaffle bits may be used with loose ring, D-Ring, Eggbutt and hanging cheeks. Single or double-jointed snaffles may also be used with upper or lower cheeks, full cheeks or Fulmer cheeks.

Loose rings may have a sleeve fitted around part of the ring.

3.1.2 **Flexible rubber or synthetic mouthpieces are permitted.**

3.1.3 A snaffle may have up to two joints. A barrel or ball joint is permitted as the centre link in a double-jointed snaffle, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece but must have rounded edges and may not have the effect of a tongue plate.

3.1.4 A double jointed snaffle or snaffle with rotating mouthpiece may be shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30mm. The mouthpiece of a jointed or unjointed snaffle may be shaped in a curve within the dimensions specified above.

3.2 Bridoon bits – a bridoon bit is defined as a snaffle bit that is used together with a curb bit to form a double bridle.

3.2.1 Bridoons may be used with loose ring and eggbutt cheeks.

3.2.2 Bridoons must have one or two joints. A barrel or ball joint is permitted as the centre link in a double jointed bridoon, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may not have the effect of a tongue plate.

3.2.3 Bridoons where the centre link(s) of the bit can lock and have the effect of a mullen mouth snaffle are not permitted.

3.2.4 Flexible rubber/synthetic bridoons are not permitted.

CURB BITS

3.3 FEI Curb Bits –better definition than NZ ~~our~~ current 4.4.3 Page 60

3.3.1 The length of the lever arm below the mouthpiece of the curb bit is limited to ten centimetres (10 cm). The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek. If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouthpiece should not measure more than ten centimetres (10 cm) when the mouthpiece is at the uppermost position.

3.3.2 Curbs may have straight or S-shaped cheeks. They may have rotating lever arms.

3.3.3 The mouthpiece may be straight or shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30mm.

3.3.4 Curb chain can be made of metal or leather or a combination. Cover for curb chain can be made of leather, rubber or sheep skin. Curb chain hooks can be fixed or not fixed.

Add as per FEI a curb chain may ever be as tightly fixed so as to harm the Horse

Art 418.3 POSITION & SEAT OF THE RIDER

Clarify ÷ Maintaining Contact with the Reins

Current Rule:

Riding with both hands is obligatory at Dressage Events.

When leaving the arena at a walk on long rein, after having finished the test the Athlete may, at his own discretion, ride with only one (1) hand.

Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in a Freestyle test available at www.fei.org.

Proposed Rule from FEI :

Riding with both hands is obligatory at Dressage Events.

When leaving the arena at a walk on long rein, after having finished the test the Athlete may, at his own discretion, ride with only one (1) hand.

Apart from the halt and salute, where the athlete must take the reins in one hand, **riding with the reins in both hands is obligatory**, but a discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of an athlete needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc).

However, if the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand in order to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark.

Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in **FEI level** Freestyles test available at www.fei.org.

Art 402: HALT & SALUTE

To align with AUS and remove potential for penalty

Current Rule:

At the halt and salute, Athletes **must take the reins (and whip if carried)** in the same hand. The head should be bowed while the other arm is held straight down to the side. In the case of two or more judges officiating on the competition, the salute is taken by the Chief Judge only

Note: Under the current rules if the reins & whip are not taken in one hand, this is penalised as for an error of test/course. Refer to DR Rules penalties page 45

PROPOSED RULE: *(Align with DR AUS – no requirement for reins and whip to be in the same hand and therefore no penalty)*

At the salute, Athletes must take the reins in one hand. The head should be bowed while the other arm is held straight down to the side. In the case of two or more judges officiating on the competition, the salute is taken by the Chief Judge only. A whip may be held in either hand at the salute

ARTICLE 451.18 UNAUTHORISED / OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

Current Rule:

Any outside help by voice, signs, (earphone and/or electronic communication devices included) is considered as illegal or unauthorized assistance to an Athlete or to his Horse. An Athlete or Horse receiving unauthorised assistance must be eliminated.

Proposed Rule:

Rationale: Clarify and align with AUS

Any **intentional** outside intervention is considered assistance to a rider or horse and is penalised by elimination. This includes but is not limited to: Assistance by voice, signs, earphone and/or electronic communication devices

ARTICLE 451.18 UNAUTHORISED / OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

New Para : Re Mounted riders being led

Rationale: Clarify when mounted riders may be led and align with AUS

- i. Mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead line when at walk when proceeding to or from the warmup area. Riders may not be led when mounted in the warmup area
- ii. Horses can be led into and out of the warmup arena but once in the warmup arena the groom is to take the horse off the lead
- iii. Mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead when proceeding to and from the competition area but not in or around the competition arena. This will be considered outside assistance and will entail elimination.
- iv. Any assistance to get the horse into the dressage arena or the area directly around the arena including being led by another horse around the arena is considered outside assistance
- v. Not applicable for riders with exemption cards.

ARTICLE 4521.18 UNAUTHORISED ASSISTANCE re COMMANDED TESTS

Current Rule

If, in the opinion of the Judge/s, the Commander makes any variation from the text of the test or does anything to assist the rider by signal, remarks or inflexion of the voice, a penalty may be recorded equal to that of the error of the course that would have occurred had the assistance not been given.

Proposed Amendment (Align with AUS)

Where commanders are permitted, it is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that only the printed text, or extracts thereof, is read out and that no other form of assistance is given. E.g. signal, remarks or inflexion of the voice. The caller may read each movement **once or twice only**. Failure to observe this rule **may entail elimination**

DISCUSSION TOPIC 1

1.1 Re: Funding for CDI @ Dressage National Championships

Submitted by: Peter Jenkins: Dressage Bay of Plenty Chair

Each Area Group will undertake fundraising to go towards the cost of running the CDI event run at the Dressage National Championships each year. Those Area Groups with riders who are likely to compete in the CDI classes are required to make this a priority, with suggestions such as running "Masterclass" events taught by these riders etc.

RATIONALE:

If Area Groups undertake fundraising throughout the year to help with the financial cost of running the CDI classes at Nationals, the cost being placed on each rider competing at the Nationals will become unnecessary. Riders who are planning/ likely to compete in the CDI classes should make themselves available to help with this fundraising effort.

1.2 Re: Funding for CDI @ Dressage National Championships

Submitted by: Peter Jenkins: Dressage Bay of Plenty Chair

We propose that an additional levy of \$0.50 to \$1.00 be added to each entry fee to a dressage class (similar to the T&D levy), and that this levy be collected to help with funding the CDI event held as part of the Dressage National Championships each year.

This would potentially result in around \$10,000 - \$20,000 per year being collected, which would considerably ease the financial cost of hosting the CDI.

RATIONALE:

Collecting the funds in this manner means that every competitor is in effect a financial supporter of the CDI, providing a "buy in" and type of ownership of the event for all riders throughout New Zealand. It is a comparatively negligible increase in fees collected, but the overall result would provide huge financial support for the event.

The levy should be clearly noted in show schedules and clearly recorded in DNZ's financial reporting.

DISCUSSION TOPIC 2

Re: Amateur Riders

Submitted by: Susan Tomlin: Dressage Central Districts Delegate

Seconded by: Jos Gresham / Member

TOPIC: Downgrading of Riders for Amateur status

There are riders who are currently excluded from riding as amateurs as they have ridden at higher levels many years ago. They want to be able to compete amongst riders of similar abilities as themselves and think that they are not in the same league as current day high level riders. These people do still have more than 15 points at that higher level but state that it was easier years ago to obtain points at those higher levels.

We suggest that riders can apply to be downgraded to amateur status in the same sort of way as horses can be downgraded. Downgrading would only be possible for riders who had earned those grading points at higher levels more than 8 years ago.

DISCUSSION TOPIC 3

Re: Para-Equestrian Athletes

Clarification re eligibility to compete in AB classes

Submitted by: Andrea Hammond: Dressage Bay of Plenty Vice President

Organising Committees need clarification around the eligibility of certified Para riders to take part in Able Bodied competitions.

There are a number of para riders who also compete in AB classes — this presents a major issue.

If a Para rider is classified under the Para-Equestrian system as being Grade I or II, the Para-equestrian rules state that they can only compete at "Walk and Trot". This is presumably because their disability is considered such that competing at canter or use of lateral work is not suitable or safe or is beyond their physical capabilities.

However, if those same riders then go on to compete in Able Bodied tests that do include canter and lateral work, how does this impact on their Para classification, and how does it impact on the responsibilities of the OC to follow the rules of the Para competition? One rider cannot be governed by two entirely different sets of rules depending on their desire to enter both types of competition.

Clarification around this should be addressed urgently. If a Grade III para rider (for example) is competing in a Preliminary or Novice AB test and has a fall resulting in serious injury, does this lead to liability implications for the OC, the venue, or DNZ as the national body?

This can be an emotive issue, and definitive guidelines from DNZ around how to address it are sought.

NOTE: Dressage NZ is undergoing a consultation process re this topic with ESNZ Para Equestrian and will report to the meeting

DISCUSSION TOPIC 4

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone / Dressage NZ Committee member- North Island Riders Representative

Re: Who can attend Riders Meetings?

For the sake of an open discussion,

That – A member of the board and any paid employee of DNZ can only attend the Riders meeting on invitation, this excludes the Riders Rep who must attend

This was discussed at length at the North Island riders meeting. The majority of riders in attendance felt it was better to have a forum where riders felt they could speak freely about any issues they may have within the sport and not feel in any way they would be disadvantaged in the future due to having their opinions heard.

Dressage in New Zealand is a very tight-knit community and some riders felt intimidated or too shy to speak out on matters if the people they may be questioning were there in the room.

Some of the discussions held at rider meetings can be of a sensitive nature and it was felt that riders would be more likely to come forward with ideas and thoughts if they were not feeling so shy or intimidated.

This was put to the vote and passed.

This probably brings up also a bigger picture of exactly who should be able to attend and / or speak at these meetings – at this year's North Island Riders meeting there were many different people in attendance, many of whom are not considered riders. Should parents of those over 18 be allowed to attend? Spouses? Should the meetings be an open discussion or only riders who are actively competing be allowed to speak / attend.

DISCUSSION TOPIC 5

Re: Prestige Equestrian Futures Prize

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone / Dressage NZ Committee member- North Island Riders Representative

TOPIC:

That the Prestige Futures Prize not be restricted by a rider's grading points

Currently this prize is restricted by the rule:

Riders may not have any grading points in Medium Tour (Level 8) or above on any horse as at 1 August 2019.

At the North Island Riders meeting this was discussed, and it was felt that it was unfair to limit this prize by rider grade / experience. The prize is focussed on horses with a hopeful big future in the sport and should have nothing to do with the ability / experience of the rider.

At the very least the Prestige futures prize name and intention should mirror who is eligible and clarify what is intended by the sponsor and the series.

DISCUSSION TOPIC 6

Re: Dressage Officials Development Programme

Submitted by: Karen Shields / Dressage NZ Committee member & AMDG President.
Full Financial Member ESNZ (National Steward and F level Judge)

On behalf of: AMDG

TOPIC:

AMDG would like to commence a discussion on the following issues related to availability and access to officials in Dressage. Ie TD, Stewards and Judges. In our region we are currently having great difficulty accessing the correctly qualified officials for L and regional shows. Also our officials are in high demand which risks over loading with many being officials being asked to officiate at PC, private equestrian facilities, eventing etc.

Our aim for the Judges Development Programme would be:

1. Provide a pathway for the development of officials to progress through the levels with clear programmes that are accessible nationally.
2. Ensure we have a succession plan in place to replace officials.
3. Provide a programme that attracts new officials and provides support mentoring and coaching so that a high-quality consistent performance is maintained by all officials.
4. Explore looking at a TR, mentoring support programmes that are suitable for officials across equestrian disciplines.

I imagine a working party of 3-5 people could put this together with video meetings in the current environment.